Filing Date: August 5, 2003

de: COUPLING SYRINGE SYSTEM AND METHODS FOR OBTAINING A MIXED COMPOSITION

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows.

- (Currently Amended) A coupling syringe system comprising:
- a first syringe including a first syringe barrel having a first syringe open proximal end and a first syringe distal end, the first syringe further including a first syringe tip with [[a]] an integral male end portion wherein the male end portion has having a locking ring and a tip, the first syringe barrel having a first syringe inner surface;
- a first syringe plunger slidably disposed within the first syringe barrel, the first syringe plunger in fluid-tight engagement with the first syringe inner surface;
- a second syringe including a second syringe barrel having a second syringe open proximal end and a second syringe distal end, the second syringe further including a second syringe tip with [[a]] an integral female end portion wherein the female end portion emprises comprising one or more exteriorly protruding members adapted to detachably fit the locking ring, the second syringe barrel having a second syringe inner surface;
- a second syringe plunger slidably disposed within the second syringe barrel, the second syringe plunger in fluid-tight engagement with the second syringe inner surface;
- wherein the female end portion having has an opening therein, the opening sized and configured to receive the tip of the male end portion therein to form a single attachment site between the first syringe and the second syringe; and
- wherein the locking ring is configured to [[couples]] couple the first syringe to the second syringe when the tip of the male end portion is disposed within the female end portion, forming a fluid tight engagement configured for back and forth transfer of one or more compositions between the first syringe and the second syringe.

(Cancelled)

(Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system of claim 1, wherein the locking ring
is configured to detachably connect to a discharge assembly.

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- (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system of claim 3, wherein the discharge 4. assembly comprises a needle.
- (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system of claim 1, wherein the integral 5 female end portion of the second syringe is detachably connected to the integral male end portion of the first syringe via the locking ring.
- 6 (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system of claim 1, wherein the integral female end portion of the second syringe is detached from the integral male end portion of the first syringe.
- The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, further comprising an 7. (Original) outwardly projecting flange near the first syringe proximal end.
- 8. (Original) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, further comprising an outwardly projecting flange near the second syringe proximal end.
- 9. (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the locking ring is rotatably coupled with the integral male end portion of the first syringe.
- (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the 10. locking ring is threadingly coupled with one or more projections disposed on an outer surface of the integral female end portion of the second syringe.
- (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the 11. integral male end portion of the first syringe is disposed within the integral female end portion of the second syringe.
- (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the 12. locking ring is rotatably coupled with the integral male end portion of the first syringe and the

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locking ring is threadingly coupled with one or more projections disposed on an outer surface of the integral female end portion of the second syringe.

- 13. The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein at least one of (Original) the first and second syringes contains therein a composition including a drug delivery system.
- 14. (Currently Amended) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 13, wherein the other syringe contains therein a composition including a drug.
- 15. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 14, wherein the drug includes lyophilized leuprolide acetate.
- 16 (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 13, wherein the drug delivery system includes Poly (D.L-lactide-co-glycolide) dissolved in a biocompatible solvent N-methyl 2-pyrrolidone.
- 17. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first syringe is directly coupled to the second syringe such that no independent coupling means is present therebetween.
- (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first syringe and 18. the second syringe include single dose administration syringes.
- 19. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 18, wherein a first dose administration syringe is approximately the same size as a second dose administration syringe.
- 20. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 1, wherein the first syringe including the first syringe tip with the integral male end portion is defined by a unitary body; and wherein the second syringe including the second syringe tip with the integral female end portion is defined by a unitary body.

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- (New) A coupling syringe system for forming a mixed medical composition, the system consisting of:
- a first single dose syringe including a first syringe barrel having a first syringe open proximal end and a first syringe distal end, the first syringe further including an outwardly projecting flange and a first syringe tip with an integral male end portion wherein the male end portion has a locking ring and a tip, the first syringe barrel having a first syringe inner surface;
- a first syringe plunger slidably disposed within the first syringe barrel, the first syringe plunger in fluid-tight engagement with the first syringe inner surface;
- a second single dose syringe including a second syringe barrel having a second syringe open proximal end and a second syringe distal end, the second syringe further including an outwardly projecting flange and a second syringe tip with an integral female end portion wherein the female end portion comprises one or more exteriorly protruding members adapted to detachably fit the locking ring, the second syringe barrel having a second syringe inner surface;
- a second syringe plunger slidably disposed within the second syringe barrel, the second syringe plunger in fluid-tight engagement with the second syringe inner surface;
 - a drug delivery system disposed in one of the first and second syringes; and
 - a drug disposed in the other of the first and second syringes.
- 22. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 20, wherein the locking ring couples the first syringe to the second syringe when the tip of the male end portion is disposed within the female end portion, forming a fluid tight engagement configured for back and forth transfer of the drug delivery system and the drug between the syringes.
- 23. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 21, wherein the drug includes lyophilized leuprolide acetate.
- 24. (New) The coupling syringe system as recited in claim 21, wherein the drug delivery system includes Poly (D,L-lactide-co-glycolide) dissolved in a biocompatible solvent N-methyl 2-pyrrolidone.